

# HOUSE BILL No. 1164

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 20-12-77.

**Synopsis:** Higher education admission policy. Requires state educational institutions to admit as first time freshman students all applicants who meet certain requirements, including graduating from an Indiana secondary school in the top level of the applicant's graduating class. Authorizes state educational institutions to consider certain socioeconomic factors in making first time freshman admission decisions.

**Effective:** July 1, 2005.

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January 6, 2005, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.

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First Regular Session 114th General Assembly (2005)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2004 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1164

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-12-77 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2005]:

4 **Chapter 77. Higher Education Admission Policy**

5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the**  
6 **commission for higher education established by IC 20-12-0.5-2.**

7 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "state educational institution"**  
8 **has the meaning set forth in IC 20-12-0.5-1.**

9 **Sec. 3. This chapter governs the admission of first time**  
10 **freshman students by state educational institutions.**

11 **Sec. 4. (a) A state educational institution shall admit an**  
12 **applicant for admission to the state educational institution as an**  
13 **undergraduate student if the applicant meets the following**  
14 **requirements:**

15 **(1) Is a resident of Indiana.**

16 **(2) Graduated from:**

17 **(A) a public secondary school; or**



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(B) a nonpublic secondary school in Indiana that is voluntarily accredited under IC 20-1-1-6.

(3) Graduated from secondary school in one (1) of the two (2) school years preceding the academic year for which the applicant is applying for admission.

(4) Has a grade point average in the top ten percent (10%) of the applicant's secondary school graduating class.

(b) To qualify for admission under this section, an applicant must submit an application before the expiration of any application filing deadline established by the state educational institution.

(c) After admitting an applicant under this section, the state educational institution shall review the applicant's record and any other factors the state educational institution considers appropriate to determine whether the applicant:

- (1) requires additional preparation for college level work; or
- (2) would benefit from inclusion in a program designed to acclimate the student to a new college environment and help the student succeed in obtaining a college degree.

The state educational institution may require a student admitted under this section to enroll in appropriate enrichment courses and orientation programs during the summer immediately after the student is admitted under this section. This section does not prohibit a student who is found to not need additional preparation for college level work from enrolling in any enrichment course or orientation program during the summer immediately after the student is admitted under this section, if the student chooses to enroll in the course or program.

**Sec. 5.** The governing board of each state educational institution shall determine whether to adopt an admissions policy under which an applicant to the state educational institution as a first time freshman student, other than an applicant eligible for admission under section 4 of this chapter, shall be admitted to the state educational institution if the applicant meets the following requirements:

- (1) Is a resident of Indiana.
- (2) Graduated from:
  - (A) a public secondary school; or
  - (B) a nonpublic secondary school in Indiana that is voluntarily accredited under IC 20-1-1-6.
- (3) Graduated from secondary school in one (1) of the two (2) school years preceding the academic year for which the applicant is applying for admission.

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(4) Has a grade point average in the top twenty-five percent (25%) of the applicant's secondary school graduating class.

Sec. 6. (a) An applicant who does not qualify for admission under section 4 or (if applicable) section 5 of this chapter may apply for admission to any state educational institution.

(b) The state educational institution, after admitting students under section 4 and (if applicable) section 5 of this chapter, shall admit other applicants for admission as undergraduate students. A state educational institution may consider all of, any of, or a combination of the following socioeconomic indicators or factors in making first time freshman admissions decisions under this section:

(1) The applicant's academic record.

(2) The socioeconomic background of the applicant, including the percentage by which the applicant's family is above or below any recognized measure of poverty, the applicant's household income, and the applicant's parents' level of education.

(3) Whether the applicant would be the first generation of the applicant's family to attend or graduate from an institution of higher education.

(4) Whether the applicant has bilingual proficiency.

(5) The financial status of the applicant's school district.

(6) The performance level of the applicant's school, as determined by the school accountability criteria used by the department.

(7) The applicant's responsibilities while attending school, including whether the applicant has been employed, whether the applicant has helped to raise children, or other similar factors.

(8) The applicant's region of residence.

(9) Whether the applicant is a resident of a rural, an urban, or a suburban area, or a resident of a rural, an urban, or a suburban area in Indiana.

(10) The applicant's performance on standardized tests.

(11) The applicant's performance on standardized tests in comparison with the performance of other students from similar socioeconomic backgrounds.

(12) Whether the applicant attended a school while the school was under a court ordered desegregation plan.

(13) The applicant's involvement in community activities.

(14) The applicant's involvement in extracurricular activities.

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1 (15) The applicant's commitment to a particular field of  
2 study.

3 (16) The applicant's personal interview.

4 (17) The applicant's admission to a comparable accredited  
5 out-of-state institution.

6 (18) Any other consideration the state educational institution  
7 considers necessary to accomplish the state educational  
8 institution's stated mission.

9 (c) A state educational institution may review other factors in  
10 making an admissions decision.

11 (d) Not later than one (1) year before the date that applications  
12 for admission are first considered under this section, each state  
13 educational institution shall:

14 (1) publish in the state educational institution's catalog a  
15 description of the factors considered by the state educational  
16 institution in making admission decisions; and

17 (2) make the description available to the public.

18 (e) This section does not apply to a state educational institution  
19 that has an open enrollment policy.

20 Sec. 7. Each state educational institution shall annually report  
21 to the commission a description of the composition of the entering  
22 class of students admitted under this chapter. The report must  
23 include a demographic breakdown, including a breakdown by race,  
24 ethnicity, and economic status, of the students admitted under  
25 sections 4, 5, and 6 of this chapter.

26 Sec. 8. The commission shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to  
27 implement this chapter.

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